



University Of Jordan

# Interviewing expert researcher

Assignment 4

Research Methodology

Supervisor: Prof. Abdulsalam Al- shbool

Students: Razan Salman 8221400

# Table of contents

01

Introduction

02

About the  
researcher

03

Questions

04

Conclusion



01

# Introduction

The purpose of this interview




The purpose of this exercise may include several key objectives:

## **1** Real-world Application of Methodology

By interacting with an expert researcher, you have the opportunity to see how the theoretical concepts you're learning in your methodology subject are applied in actual research projects. Understanding how experienced researchers initiate and carry out their projects can deepen your comprehension of research methodology.

## **2** Experiential Learning

Learning directly from an expert's experiences provides a valuable form of experiential learning. Hearing about the challenges they've faced, the tools they've utilized, and the strategies they've employed can offer practical insights that go beyond textbook knowledge.






The purpose of this exercise may include several key objectives:

### **3** Critical Thinking and Inquiry

Crafting questions for an expert researcher requires thoughtful consideration of the research process. This task likely encourages you to think critically about the components of a research project, the tools utilized, and the skills necessary for success.

### **4** Enhanced Methodological Understanding

By delving into the specific tools and experiences of the expert, you can gain a deeper understanding of the practical aspects of research methodology. This can complement the theoretical knowledge you're gaining in your methodology subject.





02

# About the researcher

Who is Professor- Ghassan Ismael Abdel-Khaliq

## Professor- Ghassan Ismael Abdel-Khaliq/ Academic and Writer

- Born in the city of Zarqa, Jordan on 6/11/1962.
- Attained a Ph.D. in Criticism from the University of Jordan in 1996.
- Currently holds the position of a Professor at the Department of Arabic Language and its Literature at the University of Philadelphia.
- Authored 30 books in the fields of thought, criticism, and narrative.
- Published approximately 30 peer-reviewed research papers in both Arabic and foreign journals.
- Supervised around 20 theses and participated in the discussions of numerous university theses.



Fig 1. Professor- Ghassan Ismael Abdel-Khaliq/ Academic and Writer

"Remember that a successful researcher is one who adeptly manages their ideas by demonstrating the ability to interconnect them. Many researchers possess brilliant ideas, yet they struggle to establish cohesive connections, leaving their thoughts scattered and disjointed."

— Professor- Ghassan Ismael Abdel-Khaliq







03

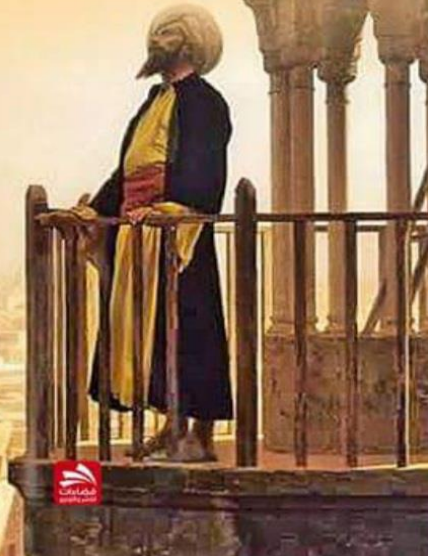
# Questions

The content of the interview

د. غسان إسماعيل عبد الخالق

# الصّوت والصدى

مراجعات تطبيقية في أدب الاستشراق

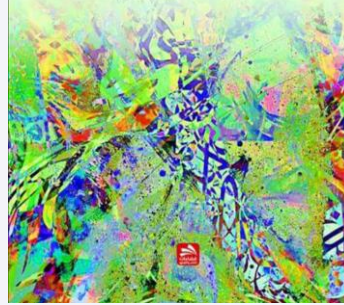


Ghassan Abdulkhaliq

غسان إسماعيل عبد الخالق

# لذة السرد

النصوص القصصية ومرباها



غسان إسماعيل عبد الخالق

# أعمال نقدية

الزّمان والمكان والنّص  
الغاية والأسلوب  
الأعرابيّ الثّائمه  
حليّن مؤجّل  
الزّمر والذّلاله  
ثلاثاء الزّماد



دراسة

د. غسان إسماعيل عبد الخالق

# حُنينٌ مؤجّل

دراسة ، مقالات ، حوارات مع إحسان عباس



Ghassan Abdulkhaliq

د. غسان إسماعيل عبد الخالق

# المتن والهامش

مقاربات مختارة في الفكر والسياسة



# THE INTERVIEW

The interview consisted of 13 questions that I posed to Professor Ghassan during a 45-minute phone call.

# Question One

## ○ How do you start a research project?

### The Answer

First and foremost, a crucial element for the emergence of an idea is **observation**, which holds great significance in scientific research. This entails the researcher observing topics and ideas through daily life experiences or engaging in dialogues, whether on social media platforms or scientific websites.

The researcher notices the existence of a specific phenomenon that requires investigation, an occurrence that encompasses certain questions necessitating answers. The researcher initiates the process by monitoring aspects of this phenomenon, proceeding to analyze and subsequently attempting to organize and critique elements that require scrutiny and so forth.

Given my experience as a university professor for 30 years, many of my research endeavors stem from discussions with my students, both at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. During these discussions, specific ideas arise, and I begin the process of analysis, subjecting them to research.

## Question Two

- What specific tools do you use (library resources, computer software, forms of measurements, statistics)?

### The Answer

Essentially, books are reliable scholarly sources, followed by trustworthy scientific journals, newspapers, and websites in general. I haven't delved into statistics primarily due to the nature of Arabic literary topics.

## Question Three

○ How did you gain your expertise with the various tools you use?

### The Answer

Since an early age, I have been an avid and enthusiastic reader. I began building my personal library when I was a fifth-grade student, consistently achieving the highest reading level in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for many years. Over time, my personal library has grown to encompass around 3000 books. Despite having my own collection, I do not forego the use of other libraries, whether at Philadelphia University, the University of Jordan, or Yarmouk University.

In general, I can assert that as time progresses, a researcher refines their skills to access information. It is critically important for a researcher to initially consult a primary source or **fundamental reference** to understand the core aspects of the problem or phenomenon. Gradually, they deepen their understanding. I can liken scientific research to peeling an orange; it requires careful and deliberate peeling to reveal the intact and beautiful fruit.

For a researcher, possessing determination, a love for exploration, and a desire to uncover the truth translates into increased activity to access valuable and useful information.

## Question Four

○ What are some important experiences you suggest for a novice researcher?

### The Answer

I have authored a memorandum titled "How to Become a Good Researcher," which I widely distribute to my students (**attached**). It is crucial that a researcher initiates information gathering without any preconceived assumptions, organizing this information based on its importance, whether temporally or thematically. Managing this information is paramount, and a researcher must exhibit proficiency in handling information, a crucial aspect of scientific research.

It is possible for an individual to be well-versed in numerous pieces of information but lacks the ability to leverage them effectively, rendering them unable to create something substantial. On the other hand, another person may possess less information but excels in connecting and utilizing these pieces effectively, presenting them in the correct manner.

## Question Five

○ If I wanted to learn how to become a competent researcher, what specific tools would you suggest I work with?

### The Answer

The researcher should possess the ability to observe keenly (like a **cat's eye**, i.e., noticing what others might overlook) and exhibit the power of insight (proving the hypothesis proposed, with the proof covering the entire sample). Additionally, the researcher should have the capacity for accurate deduction (faithfully and honestly transcribing survey data), as well as the ability to interpret, analyze, criticize, and organize. All of these are essential tools that a researcher must possess.

## Question Six

○ Can you share a specific example of a challenge you encountered during a research project and how you overcame it?

### The Answer

There is a book titled "**Rhetoric of Authority**" currently in the printing press. I have been contemplating it for approximately 15 years. Due to work circumstances and my role as the dean of the college, I didn't have sufficient time to dedicate to writing this book. However, last year, a course was introduced at the university titled "Rhetoric and Style" (which aligns with the book I had aspired to write for a long time). I volunteered to teach it to the students. This became my opportunity to challenge time, and I prepared for the lectures as if I were one of the students. I competed with the students, and thankfully, I completed the book in the final lecture of the semester.



## Question Seven

- In your opinion, what are the key qualities or skills that make a successful researcher?

### The Answer

The first attribute is **resilience** (the ability to endure and be patient). I always tell my students that a patient researcher is better than an intelligent one. Sometimes, the intelligence of a researcher can work against them. They may believe they can skip stages, going from stage 1 to stage 10 without going through the necessary steps in between. They might think they don't need to go through these steps, assuming that their intelligence can compensate for the lack of patience. Many intelligent researchers fall into serious problems because of their arrogance. On the other hand, a good researcher is a patient one who gives due diligence to each step, even if it seems simple (they don't underestimate it).

The second attribute is the researcher's relationship with sources and references. It should be an **opportunistic relationship**. This means that when a researcher starts reading a 500-page book, it is advisable for them, and it's in their best interest, to seize and take what they need without reading the entire 500 pages.

## Question Eight

○ How do you stay updated on the latest developments and trends in your field of research?

### The Answer

Close engagement with translation requires a strong command of the English language. It is crucial to read extensively in your field of specialization to stay abreast of the latest developments. It is also highly important to follow the publications of distinguished colleagues, whether in research or in conferences and peer-reviewed scientific journals.

Furthermore, it is essential to be receptive to feedback from everyone, regardless of their rank or age. The principle of modernity compels us to acknowledge that each generation is more adept at utilizing information in a more effective manner.

## Question Nine

- What strategies do you employ for effective time management and prioritization during the research process?

### The Answer

As I mentioned earlier, it is crucial for the researcher to possess the skills of patience and composure. Subsequently, it is highly important to adhere to the principle of accumulation. This means that writing a page every day is far more beneficial than writing 10 or 20 pages every month. By cultivating the habit of **writing a page daily**, the researcher will develop a comfortable and effective daily routine, resulting in a strong and impactful output. This is the correct strategy to follow.

## Question Ten

- Have you encountered any ethical dilemmas in your research, and how did you address them?

### The Answer

I regret to inform you that my message to the doctorate was subject to plagiarism by an Arab researcher at one of the Arab universities. It was exposed by a colleague within the same university. I did not find it necessary to delve into legal proceedings and hold her legally accountable, as she was **dismissed and stripped of her academic degree.**

# Question Eleven

○ How do you approach presenting your research findings to different audiences, including both academic and non-academic groups?

## The Answer

I am one of the prominent critics and thinkers in the Arab world, particularly in the field of cultural criticism. Cultural criticism emphasizes the importance of conveying literature to the public. In other words, cultural criticism is not concerned with the elite but rather with the general reader. For this reason, I authored a book titled "Rhetoric of the Street," in which I discussed the significance of everyday aspects in literature and culture, highlighting the importance of the general reader. I believe that the **methodology of cultural criticism**, which originated primarily in Britain, focusing on the public, is the suitable approach for delivering our ideas to the general reader.



## Question Twelve

- How do you balance the need for innovation with the need for rigor and reliability in your research projects?

### The Answer

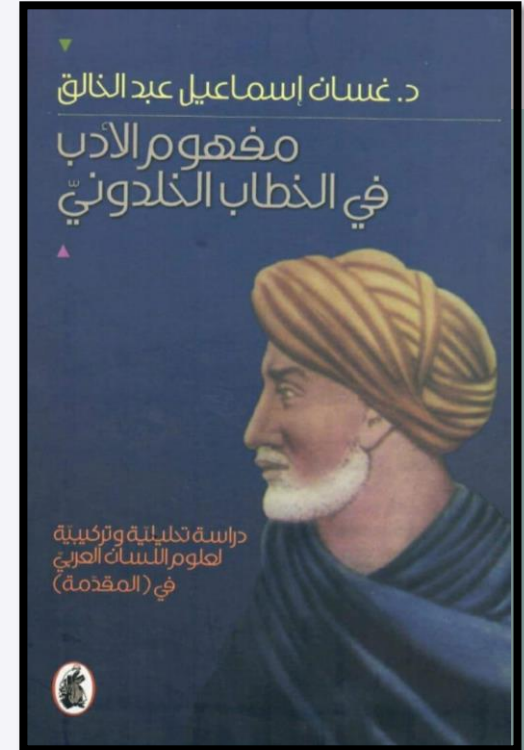
The principle of a sense of **responsibility** should be inherent in the researcher. Over time, a proficient researcher's self-accountability increases, and they develop a personal conviction that their primary goal is to benefit the reader. It becomes an internal ethical compass. Many researchers are concerned with showcasing that they have innovated something new, even at the expense of accuracy and objectivity, which is unethical.

## Question Thirteen

○ Can you share a memorable success or breakthrough moment in your research career?

### The Answer

What I have concluded regarding Ibn Khaldun's introduction still garners interest and respect in the Arab world. The findings pertaining to Ibn Khaldun's understanding of society, culture, and language, and how he connected culture to the civilizational reality (the culture of the city and the desert and the significant contradiction between them) represent a moment of success that I continue to experience.





04

# Conclusion

The summary of the interview and what I gained



# Conclusion

In summary, the distinguished academic and critic, born in Jordan in 1962, emerges as a versatile intellectual and leader in Arab literature. With a Ph.D. from the University of Jordan, he has authored 30 books, published numerous papers, and played key roles in academia. As a seasoned professor, he emphasizes the importance of patience and accumulation in research. He engages with sources strategically, stays updated with field developments, and advocates for modern collaboration and information utilization. The researcher, according to him, needs keen observation, responsibility, and the ability to connect with diverse sources. This professional's extensive experience and commitment to knowledge dissemination make him a notable figure in Arab academia.



---

# Thanks!

Do you have any questions?